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WAR AND PLEAS

OBAMA WINS SUPPORT FOR A U.S.-LED STRIKE AGAINST SYRIA FROM KEY REPUBLICANS, BUT SOME LAWMAKERS SAY MORE EVIDENCE IS STILL NEEDED PAGE 8

Chinook Station gets a new look

Calgary Transit riders welcomed the reopening of Chinook Station Tuesday, after it underwent nearly eight months of renovations PAGE 3

PUSHING HER AWAY?

The parents of Grade 2 Calgary Arts Academy student Salem Geczi, who has cerebral palsy, are worried their daughter is being pushed out of the charter school. Story, page 4. GLENN KELLY/FOR METRO

Spike in LRT breakdowns has mayor worried

Aging fleet. Older LRT vehicles require repairs four times as often as newer ones: Transportation manager

Calgary's older LRT cars are starting to break down much more often, according to a new report, leading the mayor to question whether there will be enough reliable vehicles in the fleet when the city eventually moves to four-car trains.

"Are we not going to have enough cars to run the four-cars, because the (old cars) are going to have to be pulled?" Mayor Naheed Nenshi asked at a meeting of the city's priorities and finance committee Tuesday.

His concern came in response to a city report that revealed: "LRT travel time reliability is lower than projected due to more frequent breakdown on the older light rail vehicles."

In numbers

64%

The increase in the frequency of LRT breakdowns that result in delays of three or more minutes in the first half of this year, compared to last year.

Delays longer than three minutes so far in 2013 have spiked to 9 per 1,000 hours of service, well above the rate of 5.5 at the same time last year and far exceeding the city's goal of 6.1.

The average distance travelled between LRT failures also fell to 57,822 kilometres in the first half of this year, well below the mark of 91,289 kilometres at this time last year.

"That's obviously having a huge impact on perceived quality of service," Nenshi said.

Transportation manager Mac Logan said there could be challenges in the fleet when four-car trains become a reality, but his department has built some flexibility into the sourcing of 50 new C-Train cars that could see the purchase accelerated or increased in volume, as long as the money is there to pay for it.

"I really think we need to get rid of all of the 78 (old) cars no later than the next decade," Logan said.

Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart asked Logan to report back to council with potential options for purchasing new cars and repairing old ones.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

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Capital budget.
Mayor supports post-flood adjustment

Calgary's mayor and a majority of aldermen voted Tuesday in favour of adding nearly $96 million in flood-related spending to the city's capital budget this year, while removing $42 million in other spending.

"What's before you here is a pretty significant decision," Mayor Naheed Nenshi told his colleagues on the priorities and finance committee, who ultimately supported a recommendation from city staff to adjust the capital budget.

While not all flood-related costs have been precisely calculated and it's still unclear exactly how much will be covered by insurance or other levels of government, city manager Owen Tobert said Calgary urgently needs the money for numerous repair projects.

"When you go through a catastrophe like we went through, flexibility is needed," he told members of council.

Ald. Richard Pootmans and Ald. Diane Colley-Urquhart opposed the move, however, saying there are still too many uncertainties.

"We don't know the federal government's share, we don't know the provincial government's share, we don't know what the insurance companies will pay," Colley-Urquhart said.

Ald. Gael MacLeod said taxpayers will bear some costs one way or another. "This work needs to be done and I don't think delaying getting this work done is going to be good for anybody."

The move still needs to be approved at a full meeting of council. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Departing riders walk past the new heated bus shelter at Chinook Station Tuesday. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Chinook Station reopened to users

Back to normal. Area bus routes that had been altered for closure return to previous schedules

Calgary Transit riders welcomed the reopening of Chinook Station Tuesday, which offers a brand new look and an end to the "C-Train replacement" shuttles many had become accustomed to using for the past eight months.

"It did take a lot longer," regular rider Jaclyn Watson said of the shuttle-bus service that ferried passengers to and from a temporary "station" to the 39 Avenue LRT station.

Her friend Celina Fredriksen, who said she uses the station twice a day to commute to school and to work at Chinook Centre, figures she'll save 10 to 15 minutes now that the new Chinook station is open.

Compared to the previous brick structure that towered over the tracks, the new station is streamlined and open-concept, with at-grade crossings replacing the old escalator-based method of crossing the tracks.

The station follows crime prevention through environmental-design principles aimed at improving security, said Calgary Transit safety and enforcement co-ordinator Brian Whitelaw.

"We're kind of going away from that almost castle or fortress look, to very open, comfortable, pleasing-to-the-eye streetscapes and landscapes that also contribute to safety," he said.

While much more open to the air than the last station, three shelters evenly spaced along the platform offer protection from the elements.

"We also have a new, large bus shelter in the bus loop which is heated and can accommodate a lot of our customers," project engineer Chris Knobel said.

"It's going to feel much brighter," he added. "It's a great-looking station."

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Ahead of schedule

Chinook Station closed on Jan. 14 in order for the old structure to be demolished for the new station to be built.

- The city said at that time it would be an eight-month project; it turned out to be roughly seven and a half.
- The platforms at the new station will accommodate four-car C-Trains in the future, which are expected to be introduced in 2015.

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Girl with cerebral palsy being forced from charter school: Dad

Who's to blame?

Province, Calgary Arts Academy offer differing funding tales

JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Mother Kathleen Henrichon, left, and father Will Geczi with their daughter Salem at Calgary Arts Academy, where Salem is attending Grade 2. GLENN KELLY/FOR METRO

Salem Geczi struggles to walk and write, but she loves going to school at Calgary Arts Academy.

The Grade 2 student suffers from severe cerebral palsy and requires an educational aide to assist in day-to-day classes.

But now her parents allege the superintendent of the charter school is attempting to push her out over a funding argument they aren't buying.

"We don't have a Plan B," father Will Geczi said. "There's just simply no excuse for him not to try to keep Salem at the school."

Salem attended Grade 1 at the school — Will admits he was surprised she was accepted in the first place given her special needs — and by all accounts thrived. It wasn't until the tail end of the last school year that academy Supt. Dale Erickson first raised concerns about her future at the school.

"My wife was in tears," Will recalled.

But both Erickson and school principal Josh Van Beers said Tuesday the concern is a change in the provincial inclusive education funding model for kids like Salem. They said that while they currently can receive up to $16,000 per year to assist with bringing on special needs aides, it appears that funding could lapse for all charter schools come next year.

Erickson, however, said he still hasn't ruled out a "positive solution."

"We have requested a meeting (with Salem's parents) to brainstorm and to come up with ideas about how they support the school and how the school can support them," he said.

A review of 2011-12 financial statements posted to the academy's website indicates it did turn a roughly $78,000 operating surplus that year.

As well, Van Beers discussed plans with Metro last week to double up student enrolment to 100 students per grade level by opening new facilities. The arts academy has also been involved in plans to establish a multi-million-dollar performance-based campus on the Calgary Stampede grounds.

But Alberta Education said the funding model hasn't changed for special needs students enrolled at charter schools anyways.

"It is true that in the current School Act, a charter school is not obligated to enrol students with special needs," a statement issued Tuesday adds. "Nevertheless, if the charter school enrols the student, it is obligated to provide the student with an education program consistent with the requirements of the Act and with the opportunities to meet the standards for education set by the minister."

Quoted

"You guys are like any business — you can wave your magic hands, you can shuffle money around. You can make it work if you want to."

Will Geczi claims his daughter is being forced out of her school.

GuZoo. Stiff penalties for trespassers?

Animal rights activists caught trespassing at Alberta's controversial GuZoo could be in line for stiff penalties, according to RCMP.

This comes as Edmonton resident Philip Shaw admitted Sunday to going on the zoo's property seven times since March without permission.

Video footage and photos he obtained behind the scenes of the site, which is home to nearly 400 domestic and exotic animals, over the Canada Day long weekend generated a new firestorm of criticism and calls for the government to intervene.

Three Hills RCMP Const. Rob Harms confirmed Tuesday that Shaw was charged with trespassing Friday night in relation to an incident at GuZoo — the activist claims he was slapped with a $275 fine.

But Harms added the penalty could be more severe if "certain elements are met" that would allow a criminal charge.

Penalties for trespassing can vary, but such an offence committed at night can carry a maximum penalty of $5,000 or six months in jail.

Harms confirmed Friday's incident was one of multiple trespassing incidents reported at GuZoo this year.

But when reached Tuesday, Shaw didn't rule out heading back onto the site without permission in the future.

"If the GuZoo fails in care, the government fails to enforce and we activists fail as advocates, then animals will suffer," he said. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

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Class sizes. Some core subjects seeing 40-plus students: ATA

Parents are being urged to make their voices heard as Calgary teachers report many high-school classrooms being packed to the rafters.

Frank Bruseker, president of the Alberta Teachers' Association local branch, said his group has received reports of more than 40 students in certain core-subject classes. In certain cases, he believes it will require teachers to amend whole lesson plans and remove entire science labs amid fears for student safety.

The reports come after the Calgary Board of Education moved to slash per-student funding by up to 11 per cent for its oldest learners in a bid to protect classroom sizes at lower grade levels.

While Calgary Board of Education Chief Supt. Naomi Johnson cautioned in a meeting with trustees Tuesday that the board's final enrolment picture won't be clear until month's end, Bruseker said he's not holding his breath that conditions will improve — at least not immediately.

"I think we're stuck with whatever we've got for this first semester," he said. "School boards have been given their slice of the education pie ... but the province could give more money to boards in time for next semester and that would allow schools to go out and hire more teachers."

Johnson did concede that some programs have been cut from high schools and administrative time has also been reduced.

When asked about the reports of crammed classrooms with 40-plus students Tuesday, Premier Alison Redford said it was "a broad generalization," and that ultimately school boards determine how to spend the money they're given. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Math time

The Alberta Teachers' Association local says to keep pace with surging enrolment, the Calgary Board of Education requires 155 additional teachers this fall; however, it believes the board has actually removed 20 positions.

The school's cool again: Rideau Park students head back to class

Premier Alison Redford paints with Rideau Park School Grade 2 student Mandi Jin on Tuesday. The premier toured the school, which was heavily damaged in June's flooding, Tuesday. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Post-flood. Minister credits school boards, his staff with getting facilities back in shape

Fingerpainting and celebrating were top of mind as roughly 400 students and staff at Calgary's once-flooded Rideau Park school returned in time for the first day of school.

As much as $4 million was spent to restore the school, which saw its entire lower-level and sports fields submerged and its gym floor turned into the shape of a ripple chip.

But, as promised, the bell rang and students poured in Tuesday.

Premier Alison Redford and Education Minister Jeff Johnson took part in some of the fun with Kathryn Rocker's Grade 2 class.

Rocker estimated up to half of her kids dealt with flood damage in their own homes.

"We're happy to be back here and to have our little family back," she said.

Johnson, meanwhile, said 80 schools were impacted by the flood provincewide and all but three, including Calgary's Elbow Park facility, opened on time. "This school is better than it was two months ago," he said of Rideau.

The Calgary Board of Education is still awaiting an engineering report on Elbow Park, expected to be released next week, according to superintendent for infrastructure Frank Coppinger.

It's unclear whether portions of the school can be recovered, but it's believed any form of restoration would still take years to complete.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Force of nature

"To go around the province and see what's happened to these schools is just incredible."

Education Minister Jeff Johnson on damage sustained in June's flooding

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New schools. Flood costs won't stop rollout: Redford

Despite facing a flood-damage bill in excess of $5 billion, the premier was quick to inform Alberta families heading back to school Tuesday that she will be pressing on with plans to build 50 new schools and modernize 70 others.

A first slate of new-school projects was announced in May and it's expected an announcement on a number of modernization projects will come in October.

"There is no possibility that's going to be impacted as a result of what we've seen in the last two months," Premier Alison Redford told reporters while at Calgary's Rideau Park School, which formally reopened Tuesday after being heavily damaged by June's flooding. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Making adjustments

Three schools, including nearby Elbow Park School, did not reopen for the first day of classes, but students are being housed in other facilities. A total cost estimate for damage to education infrastructure during June's flooding has not been released.

Fairmont Drive

Firefighters pull victim from S.E. truck crash

One person was pulled from a crash between a pickup truck and a semi-trailer in the city's southeast Tuesday.

The truck struck the semi near the intersection of Fairmont Drive and Flint Road S.E. around 3 p.m. Tuesday. The victim was pulled from the vehicle after firefighters used hydraulic tools to free him.

The patient was conscious and handed over to EMS for transfer to hospital. Calgary police are investigating the crash. METRO

Black bear's blond hair the answer to its prayers

A blond black bear is making its home at the Calgary Zoo. COURTESY CALGARY ZOO

Saved by the pelt. Captured animal exempt from wildlife regulations

GLENN KELLY
For Metro

It's true; blonds really do have more fun. Or at least that's the case when speaking about bears.

A rare black bear with a genetic mutation that causes its fur to turn blond has arrived at the Calgary Zoo.

The female bear was captured outside of the town of Elkford, B.C., 290 kilometres southwest of Calgary, at a campground in the area.

Wildlife regulations assert that normally, in cases where bears lack fear toward humans, it should be destroyed for the safety of the public. However, according to Laurie Skene, director of communications at the Calgary Zoo, due to the rarity and significance of the mutation, captivity seems to be the much more responsible solution.

"Unfortunately we don't have the capacity to take in all problem bears, but given the public interest in this bear because of its coloration, it has great potential to act as an ambassador for its species and habitat, " says Skene.

Skene and her colleagues at the zoo have been keeping the bear in quarantine since its arrival Saturday in order to monitor its health and help it better adjust to the change of scenery.

Animal refugees

The refugee bear is not a first for the Calgary Zoo. Skene says that the team has collaborated many times with Fish and Wildlife on similar cases, including two cougars and the zoo's grizzly bear, Skoki.

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'Political silly season.' Premier blasts school-fee abolition proposal

Amanda Pawlitzki admits it's been a pricey summer.

Her family's High River home suffered severe flood damage during June's historic rush of water and, even now, a timeline for replacing certain items is hard to nail down.

On Tuesday, she and hundreds of other High River families took part in a relatively normal rite of passage: dropping their kids off for the first day of school.

But the opposition Wildrose is calling on the province to give families in the flooded town a break on school fees.

"Clearly, families ought to be first," said education critic Bruce McAllister. "Given that we've got so many families displaced — not knowing where they're going, where their home's going to be — I think it would have been easy for the province to show leadership on this, to say 'We're going to find a way to give these students a break.'"

The Wildrose has long called for the abolition of school fees province-wide, but Premier Alison Redford chalked up a call to exempt certain families as being part of "political silly season" and said it would do "nothing more than exacerbate differences between communities."

Still, Pawlitzki admits the help would be welcome, as her family has yet to receive its first instalment of disaster-recovery funding.

"I would be happy if the province kicked that money in," she added. "I wouldn't want the school to go without." JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Case-by-case evaluation

Premier Alison Redford said the province has taken care of 25 per cent of disaster-recovery funding cases related to June's flood so far and is working quickly to address others on a case-by-case basis.

Iams So Good Doggie Café. Food truck for dogs gets tails wagging

Hungry hounds across Calgary finally got their chance to dine at one of the city's latest food trucks Tuesday.

Iams So Good Doggie Café rolled into town as part of a nationwide tour, providing tasty treats for four-legged companions of all shapes and sizes, as the dog-food company celebrates 66 years in business.

"We're trying to celebrate the relationship between man and dogs," says food-truck driver and Iams spokesman Phil Louis.

"As soon as they see the café, I think they can smell all the dogs that have been there. Usually you'll see owners holding their dogs back, and the dogs just drag towards the café. I think they understand that it's their café."

The truck, which set up shop at the corner of Southland Drive and Macleod Trail, features meals specially designed for each breed and provides nutritional information to owners on what goes into the food they feed them through their website whatsreallyinyourbowl.ca. GLENN KELLY/FOR METRO

Iams Food Truck driver and spokesperson Phil Louis greets Faith, one of the dogs that enjoyed the Iams So Good Doggie Café on Tuesday. GLENN KELLY/FOR METRO

Laguna Circle N.E.

Fire victims escape without injury

Two people escaped a northeast Calgary home fire with no injuries on Tuesday.

Firefighters were called to the 200 block of Laguna Circle N.E. around 1 p.m., where they found the fire in the kitchen of the home. The flames had made their way into the cabinets, but firefighters were able to put out the fire before any further damage occurred.

The home had smoke damage, fire officials said, but no one was injured. METRO

Safety clearance

Old City Hall back in business

Some employees began to return to the last flood-damaged city building on Tuesday.

Old City Hall reopened Sept. 3, according to the city, after remaining unoccupied since June's flooding.

Old City Hall's electrical and HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) systems, as well as all safety systems, have been verified as functioning normally, enabling staff to return to work, the city said.

Staff who normally work on the first, third and fourth floors will still not be able to return.

Council will resume on Sept. 9. METRO

Bow River

Missing family of six rescued

A family of six was rescued on the Bow River near Nature's Hideaway south of Calgary early Tuesday, after they were reported missing by another family Monday.

Three adults, two three-year-old children and an 11-year-old child were supposed to return at 8:30 p.m. Monday, according to police.

Okotoks RCMP said the group was found safe and without injury. According to police, the family had pulled onto a sandbar to rest but nightfall came so quickly they decided to stay put rather than try to find their way back. The Calgary Police HAWCS helicopter aided in the rescue. METRO

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Top Republican backs Syrian strike

Congress returns next week. President's push to gain congressional approval gains steam as Speaker John Boehner signals his support

U.S. President Barack Obama gained ground Tuesday with his drive for congressional backing of a military strike against Syria, winning critical support from the top Republican in Washington. Key Senate Democrats and Republicans agreed to back legislation ruling out the use of U.S. ground troops in any military response to a suspected chemical weapons attack.

The Republican speaker of the House of Representatives, John Boehner, said taking action is something "the United States as a country needs to do."

After a meeting at the White House Boehner said the United States has "enemies around the world that need to understand that we're not going to tolerate this type of behaviour."

Obama on Saturday stepped back from ordering a military strike under his own authority and said he would seek congressional approval.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Key Democrat speaks

Syrian President Bashar Assad's action is "behaviour outside the circle of civilized human behaviour and we must respond."

Nancy Pelosi, the leader of the House Democrats

CODEPINK co-founder Medea Benjamin is removed from the hearing room on Capitol Hill in Washington on Tuesday. J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ariel Castro. Man who held 3 women captive for a decade hangs himself

Ohio corrections officials say Ariel Castro, who held three women captive in his home for nearly a decade, has committed suicide at a state prison facility.

Spokeswoman JoEllen Smith says 53-year-old Castro was found hanging in his cell around 9:20 p.m EDT Tuesday at the Correctional Reception Center in Orient in Ohio. Prison medical staff performed CPR before Castro was transported to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The three women disappeared separately between 2002 and 2004, when they were 14, 16 and 20 years old. They escaped May 6, when one of the women broke part of a door and yelled to neighbours for help. Castro was arrested that evening.

Ariel Castro, seen here during his sentencing last month, was found dead in his cell on Tuesday evening. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Castro was sentenced Aug. 1 to life in prison plus 1,000 years on his guilty plea to 937 counts including kidnapping and rape.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LGBT. Obama set to meet with activists during the G20 summit in Russia

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights activists said Tuesday they have been invited to meet with U.S. President Barack Obama on the sidelines of this week's Group of 20 summit in Russia.

Obama and his administration have voiced concern over a law recently passed by Russia's parliament that targets "homosexual propaganda."

Igor Kochetkov of LGBT Network told The Associated Press that his organization will accept the invitation to meet with Obama in St. Petersburg, Russia on Thursday. The St. Petersburg-based advocacy group Coming Out said it also was invited but hasn't decided yet whether to go.

The White House would not comment on the meeting.

However, Obama has frequently met with civil society groups when travelling abroad. In 2009, he met with a group of Russian rights activists while visiting Russia, but members of the LGBT community were not present then. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Calls for boycott

2014

The law has sparked a boycott of Russian vodka in gay bars across North America and scattered calls for a boycott of the 2014 games. However, Obama has joined other world leaders in calling a boycott unnecessary.

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Good advice for good repairs.

The Government of Alberta is reminding homeowners to take extra care when hiring contractors to repair or rebuild property damaged by flooding. The tips below can help protect you – and your property – from further damage.

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Check with the Government of Alberta's Consumer Contact Centre at 1-877-427-4088 (toll-free in Alberta) to find out what licenses contractors may require.

Do not pay large deposits up front.
Reputable contractors typically have credit with their suppliers.

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Hold back 10% of the payment until 45 days after the work is complete.

Permits may be required.
Contact your local municipality to ensure you have all permits that may be needed. This will also allow inspections to be completed.

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Alberta Government

Boy sees no charges in child killing

Lee Bonneau, 6, was found dead in a wooded area of a Saskatchewan reserve last month. CONTRIBUTED

Lee Bonneau should have begun Grade 2 on Tuesday, but instead it was a day when information about the six-year-old's grisly death, allegedly at the hands of another child, was released by police.

At a news conference in Regina, Sgt. Larry Brost, acting officer in charge of an RCMP major-crimes unit, confirmed that if the suspect had not been under the age of 12 — the age needed to face the legal system under the federal Youth Criminal Justice Act — he would have been charged with murder in the tragedy at a Saskatchewan First Nation.

"There is no other person at this point in time in the investigation that could be responsible, other than this child," Brost told reporters at RCMP divisional headquarters.

The boy — whose age has not been made public due to privacy legislation — is in the custody of the Ministry of Social Services and is being held at an out-of-home facility equipped with 24-hour supervision.

He is deemed "in need of protection," according to Social Services, while medical and other professionals determine the kind of treatment and supervision he will require.

Lee died on Aug. 21 at southeast Saskatchewan's Kahkewistahaw First Nation from head trauma caused by a weapon — not a gun or knife, police confirmed, but a weapon "of opportunity."

Lee had last been seen walking with the other boy after he went missing from a community centre, where his caregiver was playing bingo. Lee, whose funeral was held on Friday, was a ward of a foster home just outside the reserve near Broadview.

The two boys did not know each other.

Social Services Minister June Draude is asking the province's child advocate, Bob Pringle, to immediately look into the case.

"We lost not just one child, but we lost two," Draude said.

"We lost individuals that could have been a part of our society right now."

ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO IN REGINA

SIU probe. Elderly woman falls, fractures hip after being Tasered by police

Ontario's police watchdog is investigating an incident in which they say an 80-year-old woman fell and suffered a fractured hip after she was struck by police with a Taser.

Special Investigations Unit spokeswoman Monica Hudon said three Peel Region officers approached the woman at about 3:30 a.m. last Wednesday as she was walking along a road in Mississauga.

Hudon said officers spoke with the woman until "at some point" an officer fired his Taser.

Hudon said the elderly woman fell to the ground and was rushed to Credit Valley Hospital for treatment.

The incident occurred one day after the province announced it would permit all front-line police officers to carry stun guns.

The use of force by police in Ontario has come under scrutiny after Sammy Yatim, 18, was shot multiple times and Tasered by police during a confrontation on an empty streetcar.

Videos of the incident prompted hundreds of people to take to the streets.

Another high-profile case that brought the police use of Tasers under public scrutiny was the 2007 death of a Polish immigrant at Vancouver's airport.

Robert Dziekanski died after being stunned with a Taser by RCMP. A public inquiry found that the officers were not justified in using the Taser.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police arsenal

Many police forces, including the Ontario Provincial Police and Toronto Police Service, have said they plan to train and equip their officers with stun guns, in addition to the sidearm, extendable baton and pepper spray that they currently carry.

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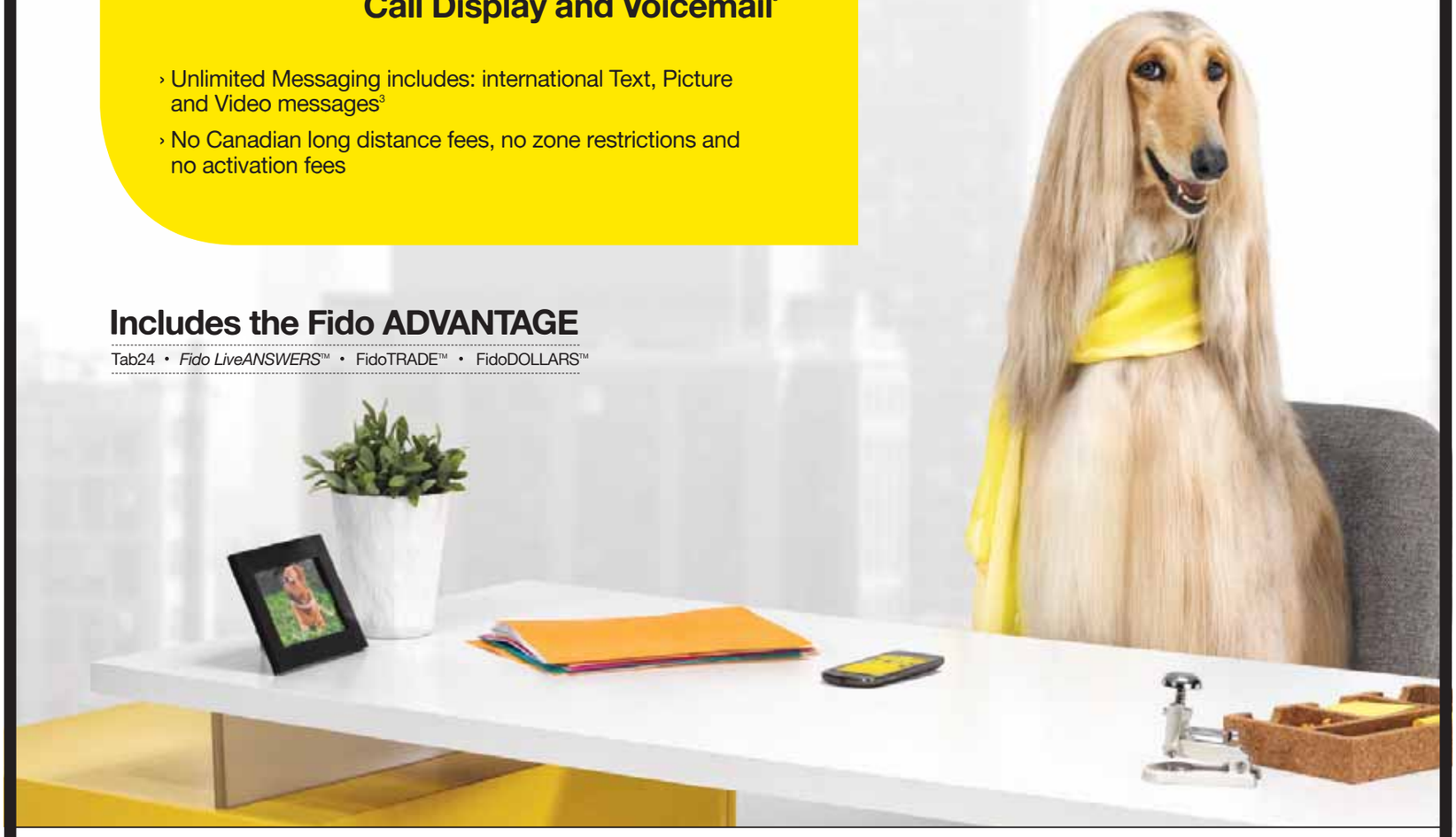

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Former NBA star Dennis Rodman arrives at Pyongyang airport, North Korea, Tuesday. JON CHOL JIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

N. Korea. Ex-NBA star to hang with 'my friend Kim'

Former NBA star Dennis Rodman landed Tuesday in North Korea and said he plans to hang out with authoritarian leader Kim Jong Un, have a good time and maybe bridge some cultural gaps — but not be a diplomat.

His trip comes just days after Pyongyang rejected a visit by a U.S. envoy who had hoped to bring home Kenneth Bae, an American missionary jailed there.

Speaking to reporters in Beijing ahead of his flight Rodman declined to say whether he would seek Bae's release. "I just want to meet my friend Kim, the marshal, and start a basketball league over there or something like that," said Rodman.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Developers of this skyscraper, which is still under construction in central London, say they are investigating the way the 37-storey building reflects bright sunlight — after claims that the intense glare melted parts of a car parked nearby. PA, ANDY SCOFIELD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hot car just can't take the heat off skyscraper

Melting pot. Owner of Jaguar says sunlight off building melted mirror, hood ornament and panels on his car

Drivers may want to think twice about parking in front of an under-construction London skyscraper known as the Walkie-Talkie because glare off the 37-storey building is so intense that at least one Jaguar owner says it caused part of his vehicle to melt.

And that's not all: Locals say the building's heat also burned a hole in the welcome mat of a barber shop across the street. "We were working and just saw the smoke coming out of the carpet," said shop owner Ali Akay.

Developers Land Securities and Canary Wharf said the problem lasts about two hours a day and is expected to continue for another two to three weeks. "The phenomenon is caused by the current elevation of the sun in the sky," they explained.

Burning question

A burned spot, believed to be caused by the reflected rays of the sun, on the doormat of a barber shop across the street from the 37-storey skyscraper at 20 Fenchurch St. in London.

In the meantime, the companies said they will erect a temporary scaffold screen at street level to minimize the problem. They said they have also asked city authorities to suspend parking in three spaces.

Similar problems have plagued other modern buildings, including in Los Angeles, where neighbours of the Frank Gehry-designed Walt Disney Concert Hall reported heat buildups that required corrective measures. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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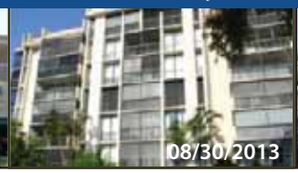

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The hunt goes on

Grizzlies in crosshairs. The B.C. government refuses to recognize First Nations tribal ban

LUKE BROCKI
Metro in Vancouver

Trophy hunting of grizzly bears on B.C.'s central coast continues while First Nations struggle to enforce a year-old tribal law banning hunters from killing the animals for sport, Metro has learned.

A source asking to remain anonymous provided Metro with photographic evidence of a hunter showing off the severed head and paws of a grizzly bear after a spring hunting trip last May in the Kwatna River estuary.

"They are photos that were taken by one of my field technicians this spring," confirmed Jessie Housty, an elected Heiltsuk tribal councillor and member of the Coastal First Nations Bear Working Group, a program whose staff have been patrolling and erecting signs in areas of high hunting activity.

"Our technician was invited onto the hunter's boat and had a conversation with him. The man in the photo identified himself ... as being Clayton Stoner."

A Minnesota Wild spokesman confirmed Tuesday afternoon the man in the photo was Stoner, a 28-year-old defenceman originally from Port McNeill, B.C.

"I grew up hunting and fishing in British Columbia and continue to enjoy spending time with my family outdoors," Stoner wrote in an email.

"I applied for and received a grizzly-bear hunting licence through a British Columbia limited-entry lottery last winter and shot a grizzly bear with my licence while hunting with my father, uncle and a friend in May. I love to hunt and fish and will continue to do so."

Stoner is not the first NHL player to attract criticism. Last year, Canucks winger David Booth tweeted a photo of a black bear he had killed on a hunting trip in Alberta, saying: "Just killed a Chara sized bruin! 7ft black bear - 21in skull."

The tweet proved controversial because Booth had used a technique called bear baiting, which is allowed in Alberta but illegal in B.C.

The fall bear-hunting season now opening across B.C. (the activity is regulated by the provincial government) and Housty said it remains difficult to enforce the tribal ban, since the province doesn't recognize its authority.

She argues hunting for sport is also a threat to the sustainable economic opportunities, including eco-tourism, that First Nations groups have been exploring.

"Bears are worth far more alive than they are dead."

A spokesman for the B.C. Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations said there were at least 15,000 grizzlies living in the province.

Officials have released 3,786 limited authorizations allowing hunters to shoot and kill bears during this year's spring and fall seasons.

Killed annually

300

The B.C. Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations estimates some 300 grizzlies are harvested in the province every year.

Sacred or sport?

"We consider bears to be our close relatives and have many stories and ceremonies that reinforce that connection. It's incredibly offensive to us that anyone would kill for sport."

Jessie Housty, an elected Heiltsuk tribal councillor and member of the Coastal First Nations Bear Working Group

Minnesota Wild defenceman Clayton Stoner with a grizzly bear shot on B.C.'s mid-coast in May. CONTRIBUTED

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"Number one job site" based on six-month average online job postings for period ending July 31, 2013. Comparison between Workopolis and all other major paid online job boards. Does not include online classified sites or job posting aggregator sites. Statistics provided by WANTED Technologies. © 2013 Workopolis.

Microsoft steps up mobile push with Nokia acquisition

Helsinki. Handset deal is an attempt to narrow gap with Apple, Google

Nokia CEO Stephen Elop, left, and Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Microsoft Corp. is buying Nokia Corp.'s lineup of smartphones and a portfolio of patents and services in an effort to strengthen its fight with Apple and Google, and capture a slice of the lucrative mobile computing market.

The $7.2-billion US deal marks a major step in the company's push to transform itself from a software maker focused on desktop and laptop computers into a more versatile and nimble company that delivers services on any kind of Internet-connected gadget.

Microsoft has been racing to catch up with customers who are increasingly pursuing their digital lives on smartphones and tablet computers. It's now betting it will have a better chance of narrowing the gap with its rivals if it seizes complete control over how Nokia's mobile devices work with its Windows software.

Ballmer admitted Tuesday that the company has to play catch-up with the likes of Apple and Android. "We know we need to accelerate. We're not confused about that," he said. "We need to be a company that provides a family of devices." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Microsoft succession

- Microsoft is also looking for a new leader. Ten days ago, CEO Steve Ballmer said he would step down within the next year.
- Stephen Elop, a Canadian who left Microsoft in 2010 to become Nokia CEO, will rejoin Microsoft once the acquisition closes. There's speculation he'll be a top candidate to succeed Ballmer.

No Key Lime Pie for you

Seems that when little green robots eat candy bars, they opt for a Kit Kat. Tech pundits have speculated for months that the next Android operating system would be called Key Lime Pie — in keeping with Google's affinity for naming new versions after desserts — but on Tuesday the firm revealed it has chosen a brand-name candy for the first time. The Android 4.4 Kit Kat system is expected to launch in October, and in turn, the robot mascot is pictured tucking into a chocolate bar on the new Kit Kat label, shown above. Marc Vanlerberghe, director of Android Marketing, said the name was chosen because Kit Kat bars have been a "favourite go-to snack among the team since the early days of Android." COURTESY THE HERSHEY COMPANY

Market Minute

DOLLAR
94.97¢
(unchanged)

Natural gas: $3.67 US (+9¢)
Dow Jones: 14,833.96 (+23.65)

TSX
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OIL
$108.54 US (+89¢)

GOLD
$1,412 US (+$15.90)

Wireless market

After Verizon fuss, cell prices could creep up again

A decision by U.S. giant Verizon to no longer try to enter Canada's wireless market may mean Canadians could soon end up paying more on their cellphone bills, say several analysts. The prospect of Verizon's entry had produced more options for consumers as the country's big three wireless carriers offered new data sharing plans. THE CANADIAN PRESS

California

Will Apple add to iPhone colours?

Apple has sent a colourful invitation for an event next week amid speculation that it may debut new colours for the latest iPhone. The invitation for the Sept. 10 event has a picture of the Apple logo surrounded by multi-coloured polka dots and the sentence: "This should brighten everyone's day." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WHAT DID YOU DO ON THE WEEKEND?

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

Weekend warriors are a dime a dozen.

They're out running marathons, hanging off cliff faces, riding their bicycles up steep switchbacks, or playing hockey at three in the morning because that's the only ice time available.

They whack various little round balls with various sticks and rackets.

They run, jump, throw, slide and stretch.

Unlike real athletes, who vie for world records or record paydays, they do all of this for next to zero recognition — a cheap medal, a certificate, a plastic water bottle, a trophy from Trophies R Us.

They get hurt. Sometimes they die. But unless they die, they don't quit.

Then there's Diana Nyad.

What she did this weekend goes into the Weekend Warrior Hall of Fame. She accomplished what she had already failed to do four times: Become the first person to swim the 177 kilometres from Cuba to the Florida Keys, without a shark cage.

If that last detail doesn't get your attention, how about she spent 53 hours in the water, swallowed so much seawater that she vomited early and often, was stung by jellyfish, but like the Energizer Bunny in a wetsuit, she just kept going until she hit the beach in Florida.

Did I mention that she is 64 years old?

Why did she do it?

How about she "wants to send a message of peace, love, friendship and happiness … between the people of the United States and Cuba."

Other people might send an email.

Diana Nyad has had this "Xtreme Dream" since 1978 when she tried and failed the first time.

At the time, she was already a long-distance swimmer who set the world record for swimming around the Island of Manhattan in under eight hours.

Then, life got in the way, but she never forgot her unfinished business and after a 30-year layoff, she tried again in 2011. And again. And again. And again in 2012.

Frankly, I thought she was done the last time. But never count a weekend warrior out. They can't help themselves.

A cynic (that's usually me) could say she's a motivational speaker and author (her books have titles like The Boss of Me) and needs fresh material to remain in demand on the lecture circuit — after all she charges up to $40K a pop.

But really? What would you rather do: Face sharks, jellyfish, choking brine, storms, waves, nausea and fatigue? Or find another topic?

Or you could do what most 64-year-olds do. Think about retiring.

But I suspect Diana Nyad is not done yet.

Not as long as there's still another weekend.

ZOOM

'This is your captain: We need more cookies'

COURTESY REX FEATURES

Flight of the five-year-old

He looks confident but record-breaker He Yide, 5, must have been a little nervous as he became the youngest person to fly an aircraft.

The mini pilot completed a 35-minute flight over Beijing, with supervision — but no help — from a coach. Yide has strict training, which included a controversial run in snow last year. **METRO**

Dad of the year

"When the baby eagle is old enough, the mother eagle would harshly push it down the cliff. I don't agree with the education of most parents. They are too protective and caring, which makes their kid lazy."

He Yide's father He Liesheng

He Yide's diary

- **Early bird.** Awake at 4:30 a.m. each day for flight training before school.
- **Conquering the seas.** The boy has also sailed a yacht in an international competition.
- **Ain't no mountain high enough.** Yide recently climbed Mount Fuji during a storm.

Worth every penny

$4,900

The cost in U.S. dollars of He Yide's flight training. It has not been wasted though — the child's next flight is already planned for Hoh Xil, an isolated region in the northwestern part of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau in China.

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

Was it YellowTiger62 or GoldenCat63? Keeping passwords straight may be easy enough when you've got a one-fits-all setup, but once you go beyond that, keeping your deepest, darkest in the dark gets a bit more complicated. Or at least it used to be complicated.

Nymi:
More than just a password keeper, this heart-rate based authentication bracelet, pictured, not only keeps your passwords straight, it also acts as a one-key-fits-all device. Hello key-free living! Pre-order for $79.

LastPass:
One of the dinosaurs of the password managers, LastPass has been around since 2008 and made a name for itself as the go-to password keeper. Works on all operating systems, free for desktop, $12/year for mobile.

KeePass:
Free, open source password manager keeps your passwords safely encrypted in a secure database.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Hackers are now tampering with cars' computer systems. What should be done to counter the problem?

@Canucklehead_ca: Seems simple enough: make all cars password protected! (All passwords must contain a capital letter, a number, two symbols …)

@Brendanger: Walk or take public transit.

@EastVanPrint: Encryption and closed networking

@almajwilson70: find them real jobs obviously they have nothing constructive to do

@Simpson957: Car companies should give nerds fancy cars so we can work out a good defense against the hackers. Me first.

@OnlyFakie: if cars are generally computers now, why don't they follow computers and have the same security they do?

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Going from the sexiest ugly man to Richard B. Riddick

Vin Diesel. Few know that the Fast and Furious and Pitch Black star has been acting since age seven and has a long list of accomplishments

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Vin Diesel returns to the Pitch Black series in his role as Richard B. Riddick. CONTRIBUTED

Vin Diesel has been acting since age seven and played many characters on screen, but he is best known by two alter egos.

We'll have to wait until next year to see him behind the wheel as Dominic Toretto in the new Fast and Furious movie, but this weekend he returns to theatres as Richard B. Riddick, anti-hero of the Pitch Black series of films and video games.

In Riddick, his fourth outing as the mercenary-turned-enforcer, he has been double-crossed and left for dead.

His battles with predatory aliens has honed his skills, his thirst for revenge and his desire to return to his home planet of Furya.

Diesel loves playing Riddick. "I know it sounds corny but I feel like I learn about myself when I play that character," he says.

But he's also created some other memorable characters.

Critics and audiences first took notice of Diesel as Private Caparzo in Saving Private Ryan. He says winning the role was "like one of those Hollywood fairy tales that you never believed."

Director Steven Spielberg saw Multi-Facial, an über low budget short film directed by and starring Diesel.

The ET director was so taken with the young actor's performance that he had a role specially written for him. The result was an effective performance that mixed physicality with poignancy.

Diesel lent his distinctive gravelly voice to the title character in the animated film The Iron Giant.

Directed by Brad Bird, the story of a lonely boy who discovers a 50-foot, metal-eating robot who fell from space, failed at the box office but has a 97 per cent Rotten Tomatoes rating.

His searing portrayal of streetwise stockbroker Chris Varick in the 2000 stockbroker drama Boiler Room garnered him considerable critical praise.

Roger Ebert wrote, "Diesel is interesting. Something will come of him," and New York Times critic A.O. Scott said the actor, "may be the sexiest ugly man in movies since Anthony Quinn."

Knockaround Guys is a coming-of-age story with a gangland twist.

The four sons (Vin Diesel, Seth Green, Barry Pepper, and Andrew Davoli) of Brooklyn mobsters band together to reclaim a quarter of a million dollars lost in a small town run by a crooked sheriff (Tom Noonan).

Diesel oozes charisma in a so-so film, tossing off tough guy lines like, "That's about the only thing you can count on in this life, there's nobody that wouldn't hurt you ... if it helped them," with ease.

More on Riddick

Katee Sackhoff. CONTRIBUTED

Being the only girl in the room on Riddick

In Riddick, Katee Sackhoff co-stars alongside Vin Diesel as Dahl, the only female member of a team of mercenaries — but also one of its toughest.

Riddick is very funny, surprisingly.
My best friend is terrified of scary movies. She's going to the premiere and she was like, "How scared am I going to be?" And I was like, "Sweetie, it's not scary."

Do you worry about doing what you're already known for when looking for parts?
I think people spend too much time trying to understand this business when you can't understand it. I don't think there's any real right way or wrong way to do this. Truthfully, I feel blessed that people want me to do it at all, and if that's science fiction and action, I'd rather do that than so many other genres. So I'm good. NED EHRBAR/MWN

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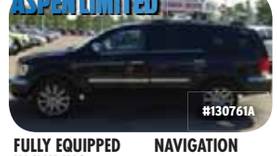

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Bret Easton Ellis. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

James Deen as Mr. Grey? Not enough alcohol in the world

While the casting announcements are official for 50 Shades of Grey — with Dakota Johnson and Pacific Rim star Charlie Hunnam taking the much-debated lead roles — apparently not everyone is in agreement behind the scenes of the hot literary adaptation.

After the news was announced, author Bret Easton Ellis took to Twitter to rain on the parade and share some information.

"Talked to (author) E.L. James at a party over the summer. Her first choice for Christian was Rob Pattinson," he posted.

"When E.L. James asked me who I thought should be Christian I said, '(Porn star) James Deen, of course,' and then she shoved me. We were both very wasted."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

American Idol rounds out its panel with latest addition

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

After months of speculation, it was announced that handsome Southern crooner Harry Connick Jr. and former American Idol judge Jennifer Lopez are officially joining American Idol 13.

The two join Keith Urban on the judge's panel; stalwart Randy Jackson will be back as an "in-house" mentor.

And, what would Idol be without Ryan Seacrest? The personality, of course, will be back as host.

"I have always been a huge fan of American Idol and really enjoyed my time as a mentor on the show," said Connick in a press release.

"And I am honoured that they've asked me to be a judge this season. As an entertainer, I am truly excited to bring my perspective to American Idol and to help emerging performers find their way."

For her take on the announcement, Lopez simply tweeted, "#IDOL2014TheRemix."

Hopefully the addition of Connick and Lopez will help this new season's ratings. This past season was American Idol's worst rated since the show began airing in 2002.

Will Smith

Another day, another sale for the Smith family

Will and Jada Pinkett Smith have decided to ditch their sprawling, palatial Calabasas, Calif., compound, according to the Real Estalker blog.

The Hollywood power couple is reportedly looking to get $42 million for the property, which features a 25,000 square foot adobe-style main house, man-made lakes, a hotel-size pool and facilities for tennis, volleyball and basketball.

The family sold a property on the Hawaiian island of Kauai for $20 million in 2011.

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The sun is shining and the weather is sweet in Jamaica

Island time. Beyond the beautiful beaches are great restaurants and exciting activities

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Rum bars filled with colourful locals, glorious beaches, waterfalls you can climb and romantic river rafts. Yep, Jamaica has a lot to offer.

Of course, there are the swanky resorts and infamous spots such as Hedonism, where just about anything goes, including a lot of bathing suits. And don't forget the jerk shacks that waft heavenly spices out over the island and the reggae music.

Diving into the perfect water near Rick's Café. Just watch your Red Stripe intake before you jump. PHOTOS JIM BYERS/METRO

Sleeping

Negril has awesome sunsets and an endless beach flanked by resorts such as Beaches, Sandals and the aforementioned Hedonism. Further north and east are the impeccable grounds of Half Moon, a RockResort, equipped with a fun and not too tricked-up golf course, a sweeping beach and a who's who list of attendees, including Queen Elizabeth and Paul Simon. My personal favourite resort for a taste of local culture is Jakes at Treasure Beach, a spot on the south side of the island with pseudo-Moroccan design and glorious detached villas in bright ochre and pale blue.

Dining

Half Moon features the romantic Sugar Mill restaurant, with a gorgeous patio lit up by overhead lights hanging from gnarly trees. Try the snapper in a coconut-saffron sauce or jerk chicken spring rolls. A favourite for casual jerk chicken is Scotchie's near the Montego Bay Airport, where you can fill your belly for less than $10. In the Montego Bay Freeport zone is the fabulous House Boat restaurant, reached by a three-second ferry/raft. Gaze out on the bay and the lights in the hills and dine on spicy shrimp in a scotch bonnet beurre blanc sauce or a Queen Conch fritter. Jakes at Treasure Beach has a marvelous kitchen. Next door on the beach is Jack Spratts, which serves a fabulous jerk sausage pizza.

The sunsets in Negril are some of the best you'll find anywhere.

Doing

At Half Moon you can take a horseback ride and swim with the animals, who love nothing more on a hot day than submersing themselves in the cool ocean water. Dunn's River Falls is famous as a playground where you can clamber up large rocks and dunk yourself in the cool water running down from the mountains. Prefer to let someone else do the work? Try a romantic rafting trip on the peaceful Martha Brae River near Falmouth, where a local will guide you along on a wide bamboo raft under a jungle canopy.

Drinking

If you must, you can down Jell-O shots or any number of sickly sweet things at Jimmy Buffett Margaritaville on the Hip Strip in Montego Bay, which is jammed to the rafters with cruise ship day-trippers and has a cool waterslide that drops you a couple stories into the bay. You don't want to miss Rick's Café, south of Negril. The water is the most beautiful shade of aquamarine imaginable, and local kids will do handstands and crazy dives off huge cliffs for a couple of bucks. You can try a bellyflop of your own from several spots, too. Take a boat ride from the south shore to the ramshackle Pelican Bar, which sits in a few feet of warm water a half mile or so off the coast and looks to be mostly made up of driftwood, with a thatched roof. Very memorable.

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It's more than just tacos and tequila: Mexico City's food scene on the rise

Eat your heart out. This capital city to the south offers foodies restaurants with French influence and a little Mexican history

ALEXANDRA CAVALLO
Metro World News in New York

When one thinks of Mexican food, a number of Americanized staples almost certainly come to mind. Tacos, enchiladas, burritos and, of course, tequila — these are items many first-time visitors to Mexico City would likely expect to find on most menus. And, yes, the city's eateries offer their fair share of traditional Mexican cuisine.

What first-time visitors to the increasingly more gentrified city might be surprised to learn, however, is that Mexico City's culinary scene is as diverse and dynamic as the city itself. Mexico City seems poised on a threshold, with roots in traditions both old and new.

The topic of tequila, for example, is sure to spark lively discussion — and strong opinions — among natives. Old-timers are faithful to the spirit, quick to expound upon its many virtues and to eschew its trendier cousin mezcal (a similar liquor distilled from the maguey plant, a form of agave), which the city's younger and hipper denizens have become enamored with of late. Entire bars dedicated to the spirit, which is similar to tequila but with a smokier flavour, have sprung up in chichi areas of the city — ask an older Mexican gentleman, however, and he'll tell you it's just a passing fad.

The city's dining scene is similarly marked by old and new world flavours. Travellers who have dined in culinary meccas like New York and Paris will feel at home in swiftly on-the-rise neighbourhoods like Roma (Mexico City's answer to Williamsburg) where well-heeled, well-dressed young urbanites fill the sidewalk-side tables of hip restaurants and browse artsy (and often pricey) boutiques that would be right at home in one of the aforementioned metropolises.

For foodies travelling to Mexico City, we've rounded up a few must-hit restaurants at which both the food and the ambience capture the unique cultural balance that defines this city in flux.

Maximo Bistrot Local

Be prepared to wait at this bustling restaurant in the neighbourhood of Centro. Locals and tourists alike flock to the unassuming eatery (its homey, minimalist design belies its sophisticated fare) where the eclectic, French-leaning menu is marked by gastronomic flourishes that will leave diners pleasantly surprised. Eduardo García, the young chef and owner, is a firm believer in sustainability — he employs his own divers to procure the fresh seafood that graces the often-changing menu and is an avid proponent of the farm-to-table movement that is on the rise in some of the best new restaurants in the States.

C'est la Vie

More often than not, hotel restaurants are forgettable, if functional, providing travellers too exhausted to venture out into the city in search of more exciting cuisine with a quick and easy meal before bed. Not so at this sleek restaurant located on the ground floor of Le Meridien hotel. Decidedly modern dishes and surprising flavour profiles mark the menu — a creamy, yet surprisingly light asparagus soup poured tableside from a ceramic carafe and a succulent duck breast cooked to perfection with glistening crispy skin are two standouts. Bonus points for an extensive wine list along with a variety of traditional Mexican beer options.

La Ópera Bar

For more casual dining, try this eatery in the heart of the city's centre. Dark wood panelling, red-velvet upholstered chairs and low lighting add to La Ópera's nostalgic, old-school vibe. Locals enjoy long repasts at the no-frills restaurant where, famously, the Mexican Revolutionary General Pancho Villa once fired a bullet above his head and into the ceiling, in a fit of rage over a table of fellow diners he felt were behaving too rowdily. That bullet hole is still there, adding to the sense of history and intrigue in the eatery. The menu, likewise, offers more traditional Mexican fare (try the mole) though more sophisticated epicurean delights share the large menu — among them a heaping dish of tiny sea snails in a savoury Chipotle sauce.

More eats

- **Restaurante Tamayo.** Another restaurant on the forefront of Mexico City's culinary revolution, this small café-like restaurant is tucked away in the shade of twisty trees just across the fairway from the lush greenery of Chapultepec Park (one of the largest city parks in the Western hemisphere, more expansive by far than New York's Central Park, where residents gather to escape the bustle of the urban city centre). Inside, the menu is elegantly written in chalk on a blackboard above the restaurant's take-out bar and simple wild flowers in mason jars adorn the tables. The locally-supplied menu changes often and offers some surprising options (a fresh Caprese salad, for example) alongside more traditional Mexican standbys.

Mexico City is straddling both old and new traditions. ISTOCK

Roma is Mexico City's equivalent of Williamsburg. METRO WORLD NEWS

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Catching the big one in the Rideau Canal

Ottawa. The nation's capital is attracting a growing number of urban anglers looking for trophy fish from downtown shorelines

Next to the green grass, tulips and joggers that line Ottawa's picturesque Rideau Canal, a monster lurks in the shallows — the legendary muskellunge, a fierce fish with razor sharp teeth.

"They're essentially opportunistic hunters; anything that can fit into their mouths, sometimes even bigger things. They are not shy," says Robert Fuchs, 30, a professional angler and avid urban fisherman.

As fishing legend has it, the prehistoric beast will eat beavers, ducks, muskrats and even small dogs.

"In the spring," says Fuchs, "a family of ducks will swim by and after a big splash there's two missing."

Fuchs says the elusive muskie — which can weigh more than 20 kilograms and stretch a metre and a half — is just one species of trophy fish that make Ottawa's famous canal their summer home.

And they're attracting a growing number of urban anglers looking for a prize catch.

"Even if it's on my lunch break, if I can make it down to the canal, it takes me 10 or 15 minutes to get there," says Fuchs.

Earlier this summer, Fuchs was fishing the Rideau River along Strathcona Park, in Ottawa's Sandy Hill neighbourhood, and caught a muskie more than a metre long.

"People could not believe it, and it was by far not the biggest fish that swims in there," he says, noting the mammoth creature sported teeth as long as a fingernail.

"There's nothing like it, to be a fisherman and having that much access to so many excellent fishing spots. It's very convenient."

More and more area anglers are forgoing faraway rural fishing holes for nearby urban locales, next to malls or even behind the Parliament Buildings.

"It's world-class fishing," says Fuchs about the Ottawa River, Rideau River and canal.

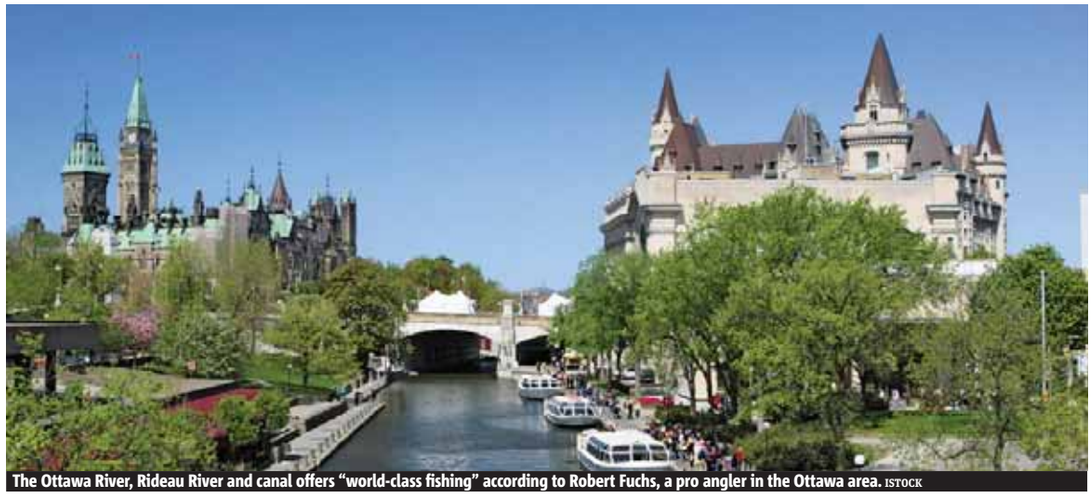
"The amount of big muskie and pike that gets pulled out of the Ottawa (River) on a monthly basis, it's absolutely astonishing."

Year round, anglers can fish for largemouth bass, perch, walleye, catfish and gar, all from the convenience of urban shorelines snaking through the downtown.

Fuchs says part of the reason fish populations remain so healthy in the area is the practice of catch and release.

He and buddy Robert Conley, 31, form a fishing team known as the "Bassassins," but they're not so much big-game hunters as devotees of setting their prey free.

Fuchs says anglers don't need power boats or kayaks to access great fishing. And places such as Dow's Lake offer picturesque backdrops for your casts.



The Ottawa River, Rideau River and canal offers "world-class fishing" according to Robert Fuchs, a pro angler in the Ottawa area. ISTOCK

"The entire stretch down from the locks, where the Rideau Canal enters the Ottawa (River), all the way up that entire stretch for seven kilometres is fantastic for shore fishing," he says.

"People are always surprised and ask: 'Is there any fish in here?'"

A couple of casts later, Fuchs adds, he'll show passers-by a bass.

Fuchs says more adventurous anglers can use rubber chest waders to venture deeper into the waters of the canal to find spots off the beaten path.

But he says the comforts of the shore, far from muskies or whatever else lurks in the waters, works just fine for an afternoon of urban fishing.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

You don't need a power boat or kayak to access great fishing. THE CANADIAN PRESS

If you go...

- **What you need.** The best Ottawa fishing spots, says expert Robert Fuchs, are along the shore of Dow's Lake, a five-minute drive from the Byward Market. Victoria Island behind the Parliament Buildings is also a well-known spot among fishermen. Otherwise, anywhere along the Rideau Canal you're bound to get a bite. You'll need a medium-light spinning rod with a six- to eight-pound test line; they're generally $80 to $90 apiece. Use stick baits and classic wacky rigs, with a No. 1 circle hook. You can use worms as well.

Didn't think it was possible to do fancy on a budget? Think again

NUTRI-BITES
Theresa Albert
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This meal may come in slightly over $5 if you don't get your ingredients on sale and you do use the wine. But it is absolutely worth every penny.

This dish, which features high nutrient spinach in a convenient frozen form paired with high iron chicken thighs and a tasty balsamic vinegar and blue cheese, is yours in under 10 minutes.

Ingredients

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- 1 lb skinless chicken thighs ($4.30)
- 2 cloves garlic, minced ($0.10)
- 2 tbsp balsamic vinegar ($0.10)
- 1/4 cup red wine (optional) ($0.60)
- 2 tsp dried oregano ($0.03)
- 2-4 oz blue cheese, crumbled ($0.60)

Total: $7.02
Per person: $3.51

Eat cheap (and healthy)

The past two Wednesdays, Metro's Theresa Albert has served up easy to make and healthy recipes that are perfect for families or starving students. If you missed them, check out the recipes at metronews.ca/food. And don't forget to look for the final two recipes in the series on Sept. 11 and 18.

1. Microwave spinach just to thaw and let drain in a colander in the sink until ready to assemble.

Baked Chicken with Spinach and Blue Cheese

For a variation on this recipe, which serves two, try stuffing the chicken with spinach. ISTOCK

2. Break up spinach into large, low casserole dish. Nestle chicken pieces into spinach. Sprinkle with garlic, vinegar, wine, oregano, salt and pepper. Break up blue cheese to spread on top. (Cream cheese is a good substitute)

3. Cover with foil and place into 350 F oven to bake for approximately 45 minutes or until heated through. Meat internal temperature should read 165 F.

Drink of the Week

Hennessy V.S Bramble

The perfect end-of-summer cocktail offers strong, bright flavours.

- 1.5 oz Hennessy V.S
- .5 oz fresh lemon juice
- 4-5 blackberries
- .5 oz simple syrup
- .25 oz of Crème de Cassis
- Twist of lemon

Muddle berries in bottom of a shaker tin and add lemon juice, simple syrup and Hennessy V.S with ice. Shake until well chilled and strain into a rocks glass with fresh ice. Splash Crème de Cassis over the top and garnish with lemon twist and a few blackberries.

RECIPE AND PHOTO COURTESY HENNESSY

Side. Janet's Fermented Kosher Dill Pickles

1. Wash two 1.5-litre (6-cup) mason jars in hot soapy water.

2. In saucepan, bring water to a boil and stir in pickling salt until dissolved. Let brine cool.

3. Scrub cucumbers and slice very thin piece off blossom end of each one.

4. Put 2 sprigs of dill, few pieces of garlic and 15 ml (1 tbsp) pickling spice in each jar.

5. Pack cucumbers vertically into jars, filling halfway. Add another dill sprig and more garlic. Pack remaining cucumbers to fill jars tightly, ensuring all cucumbers are below the "neck" of the jar. Tuck in the last bit of dill and garlic between cucumbers.

6. Fill jars with brine, ensuring cucumbers are completely covered.

7. Cover jars loosely with cheesecloth and secure with elastic band if necessary. Store in a cool dark place for 1 week. Check jars every day to ensure cucumbers remain submerged and top with additional brine as necessary. If scum or foam develops on surface, skim it off and discard.

8. After 4 days, taste a pickle and decide if they're ready or if you want them fermented longer. "Half sours" usually take 3 to 4 days, while "full sours" take 5 to 7 days. To stop pickling process, cover jars with a lid and place in the refrigerator. **JANET NEZON, OWNER OF RAINBOW PLATE (RAINBOWPLATE.COM)**

Ingredients

- 4 l (16 cups) water (unchlorinated if possible)
- 90 ml (6 tbsp) pickling salt
- 2 kg (4 lb) Kirby pickling cucumbers (about 20, depending on size)
- 4 to 6 sprigs dillweed, preferably seeded, washed
- 4 cloves garlic, peeled and sliced in half
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) pickling spice

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The faux-pas of a professional feed

When hitting send impedes success.
How tweet it is to take advantage of this tool. Just make sure you use it properly!

JESSICA CRUZ
TalentEgg.ca

Ah, the wonderful world of Twitter. A land where users post their most random thoughts, check out the latest sports updates and watch in awe as celebrities make gross grammatical errors.

But if that's all they're doing, visitors to Twitter may be missing out. It turns out that the social network can be a great asset to the job hunt, provided the job-searcher avoids a few common mistakes along the way.

Don't keep your settings private

It's OK to keep personal accounts on Twitter for friends.

But if you're using Twitter for job searches and networking, your account needs to be accessible. How can anyone respond to your tweets? You might connect with a recruiter who is at the same conference as you, get instant updates on that job you've been waiting for or even win a contest.

Transparency is key when utilizing social media for developing your personal brand, job hunting or networking. It also opens doors for other people to contact you about opportunities and learn more about you.

Don't mix too much of your personal life with your professional life

Remember the purpose of the account. Keep in mind that an online account means 24/7 access for potential employers. The second something goes up, someone will see it.

Don't hide behind your hashtags. If you want an employer to pick you out of the crowd, make your account public. ISTOCK

Post on different channels with your own discretion, or don't post it at all. An open account should not mean unlimited access to your life.

Don't exaggerate your job title

Keep your tagline current, direct, and about your profession.

Use a decent photo and include a helpful link and customized background.

It's good to show a bit of personality, but try to keep the content relevant to your industry and how you want others to see you.

Connect with others!

Twitter was created for casual interaction

- If you find a company you like, follow them. If you find a campus recruiter from the same company, follow them, and retweet or respond to their tweets.
- Twitter can be used as a learning tool as much as a social tool. Combine these experiences and output productivity for your job hunt from your time online.

Don't be too controversial

Avoid topics like politics or starting arguments with other users.

Don't skew an employer's impression of your values.

Separating business and personal opinions helps you keep your personal life from affecting your professional life.

Don't be ashamed to boost yourself up

Remember that you're using Twitter as a personal branding tool. It's good to mention accomplishments, events or milestones in your life. Decide how much is appropriate — your online presence may be the strongest first impression.

Don't forget to check your interactions

Stay updated with who is interacting with you.

Check your mentions for retweets, replies and followers. Regularly check your direct messages (DM) to see if someone contacted you.

Take a glance at profiles who retweeted, DM or mentioned you. See what they tweet about; perhaps you'll find a common interest or a potential employer.

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Choosing the program that's right for you is a big decision. That's why SAIT Polytechnic offers information sessions – your golden opportunity to discover your program options, ask questions, and sometimes, tour our campus. Our sessions are free and range in topic and timing. Details on all our sessions can be found on the events calendar at sait.ca. Here's just a few we are offering this month:

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Join us Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 pm in MacDonald Hall in the Heritage Hall Building; program breakout sessions to follow. Confirm your attendance and program of choice by visiting sait.ca, calling 403.284.8367 or emailing construction.info@sait.ca.

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Join us Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00 pm in MacDonald Hall in the Heritage Hall Building; program breakout sessions to follow. Confirm your attendance and program of choice by visiting sait.ca, calling 403.284.8367 or emailing construction.info@sait.ca.

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So am I a full-timer or a free agent?

The blurred lines of business. Being employed doesn't necessarily mean that you're an "employee"

PARISA NIKFARJAM
TalentEgg.ca

You may be finding that you or your friends are increasingly entering into working relationships where you're an "independent contractor" rather than an employee.

Why? Employers often prefer hiring independent contractors for the cost savings. Contractors do not receive benefit packages, pensions or other perquisites provided to employees. They do not have entitlements to basic employment rights such as minimum wage, overtime pay, health and safety protections, job-protected leaves and human rights protections.

On the other hand, contractors benefit from a big (tax) advantage, in that they can deduct reasonable business expenses at tax time.

Despite potential benefits, there are significant drawbacks if a contractor is truly an employee, including unpaid taxes (for both the employer and the contractor), penalties, interest, CPP, EI, and other legal liability (under the Human Rights Code and the Employment Standards Act).

Even if you sign a contract which states that you are an independent contractor, you may still be an employee.

What determines whether you are an employee or an independent contractor is the nature of the relationship; in other words, how your work is actually performed. Therefore, even if you sign a contract that says you're an independent contractor, you may still have rights and obligations as an employee.

As the final determination depends on the individual facts and circumstances of each arrangement, remember that old saying about the duck: if you act like an employee and are treated like an employee (in all but receiving the benefits/protections of an employee), you're likely an employee, notwithstanding intentions to the contrary.

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How do you know which arrangement you are in?

You may be an employee when at least some of the following describes your working arrangement:

- You receive training from the company
- The company supervises your work
- You do not have control over your work, hours or rate of pay
- You work with tools or equipment that the company provides

You may be an independent contractor when some of the following describes your working arrangement:

- You control how your work is done. You may hire other people to assist in doing the work and you (not the company) direct their work
- You can negotiate your pay and when your work has to be done
- You are not an integral part of the company

CONTRACT
This is an Agreement ("Agreement") between
(hereinafter referred to as "Company") and
(hereinafter referred to as "Contractor").
WHEREAS, Contractor provides services to the general public in an independent

A signed contract is not always a clear indication of where you stand. ISTOCK

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Brave the new world of books and buds

Got the new-school spooks? Any first can bring on fear, but these tips can help the post-secondary pupil start with confidence

JULIA WEST
Metro World News

There's no getting away from it; the TV commercials are all pointing to one thing: It's back-to-school time.

Only this year is different because you're ditching that dusty high school to enter college. It'll be strange, emotional and definitely scary at first. With a little help from those who already learned the ropes, we found out what it takes to make it through your first year.

Meet new people

Each activity — orientation, dorm hall meetings and even class — can be an opportunity to chat up someone new. "Don't be afraid to branch out and meet new people. There is nothing that says you can only hang out with people from your high school," advises Mitch Verboncoeur, a senior resident adviser at Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla.

Matt Aiello, a resident adviser at Vermont Tech, suggests using dorm time as a way to interact with fellow newbies. "Keep your door open," he says. "Living in a residence hall can be scary, but simply leaving your door open lets your floor mates know that you are interested in meeting new people, and others will jump at the opportunity to talk to someone new."

Participate in class

Education is the bulk of the reason you're in college, so soak it up. "Be vocal in class and don't be afraid to speak your mind," Aiello says. "You're in college now, you are allowed to disagree. After all, you're paying for your education and only you can ensure that you get the most for your money.

"Sitting in the back of the room quietly taking notes might get you through the course, but your education is in your hands now. Make something of it."

Wait to hit the books

College is pricey; cut costs where you can. It's risky, but Aiello suggests not buying textbooks. "At least not right away," he says. "In my experience, many classes are listed as requiring a textbook, but some teachers give handouts with all of the information you will need, and some don't even teach to the text at all. Wait a week or so into the semester to test the waters in each of your classes to get an idea of if you will need the book or not.

"Who knows, you might just meet an upperclassman in that week that will sell you the book for a fraction of the price."

Feeling like a freshman fish out of water? There are ways to quickly make your campus feel a little more cosy. ISTOCK

Embrace independence

Remember, mom and dad aren't here to harp on you, but they're also not here to lick your wounds.

- "Become your own problem solver," says Zachary Beaver, director of student engagement and leadership development at American International College in Springfield, Mass. "Stop calling mom and dad when something small happens. Learning to solve your own problems helps you gain independence."

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SPORTS 4

No love lost: Serena shuts down Navarro

Tennis. Top-seed Williams wins 6-0, 6-0 to advance to semifinals at U.S. Open

From an ace on the first point to a stinging return on the last, Serena Williams was close to perfect in the U.S. Open quarter-finals.

The score said it all Tuesday night: 6-0, 6-0.

Yes, Williams is looking better and better with each match at the year's last Grand Slam tournament. With two more wins she'll earn a fifth title at Flushing Meadows and 17th major championship overall.

The No. 1-ranked and No. 1-seeded Williams shut out 18th-seeded Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain, the first "double bagel" in a quarter-final at Flushing Meadows since 1989, when 18-time major title winner Martina Navratilova did it to Manuela Maleeva.

"When you play against Serena," Suarez Navarro said, "you know these things can happen."

Williams won 53 of 71 points and dominated pretty much every statistical category. The first set took all of 19 minutes. The second was slower, lasting 33 minutes, but no less lopsided.

Williams was asked whether she'd describe her performance as close to flawless.

"Of course not," the defending champion said with a laugh. "I played good, though. I played really good. I was just more focused than anything. You know, I like to believe there is room for improvement."

That might be bad news for her opponent in Friday's semifinals, 2011 French Open champion Li Na of China.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Men's action

- Top-seeded Novak Djokovic eliminated Marcel Granollers 6-3, 6-0, 6-0 in a grand total of only 79 minutes.
- Defending champion Andy Murray shrugged off a poor first-set tiebreaker to beat Denis Istomin 6-7 (5), 6-1, 6-4, 6-4.

Serena Williams returns a shot during her quarter-final win over Carla Suarez Navarro on Tuesday. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

Cycling. Sagan secures Tour of Alberta lead after Day 1

Kevin Pipp Frank competes in Tuesday's time trials at the Tour of Alberta in Edmonton. JASON FRANSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pre-race favourite Peter Sagan is the first man to wear the yellow jersey in the inaugural stage of the Tour of Alberta cycling race on Tuesday.

The Cannondale team rider took a commanding 12-second lead over his nearest competitor in the opening 7.3 kilometre time trial. Victoria's Ryder Hesjedal was 30 seconds back of Sagan.

The 7.3-kilometre prologue was laid out over a twisty, up-and-down loop linking Edmonton's downtown, the provincial legislature and the city's leafy river valley neighbourhoods.

Margins are expected to be tight and battles for time bonuses will be crucial.

With the race's lone mountain stage cancelled due to road damage from floods, there will be no epic climbing stages to string out the peloton and separate contenders. Most stages are expected to end in bunch sprints, in which all riders in the first group to cross the finish receive the same time.

Because they're battling only against the clock, Tuesday's time trial was one of the choice spots in the race for riders to squeeze out a few precious seconds on their rivals.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

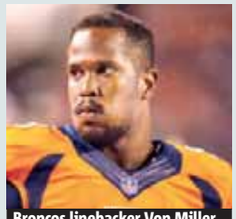
Broncos' Miller banned for violating league drug policy

Denver All-Pro linebacker Von Miller is among 20 NFL players suspended for the beginning of the NFL season.

Miller will be out for six games for violating the league's substance abuse policy. He will miss Thursday night's opener between Super Bowl champion Baltimore and the Broncos.

The league wanted a longer penalty for the third-year linebacker, but the sides agreed to less than half the season. It will cost Miller about $800,000.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Broncos linebacker Von Miller GETTY IMAGES FILE

NFL

4 ex-players, 3 wives, sue league, helmet makers

Four former NFL players have sued the league and its helmet maker, claiming they hid information about the dangers of brain injury. They want medical care for past, current and future NFL players.

The ex-players — Jimmy Williams, Rich Mauti, Jimmy Keyes and Nolan Franz — filed the federal lawsuit in New Orleans on Sunday.

Last week, the NFL tentatively agreed to pay $765 million to past players with health problems that can be caused by concussions, but some said the amount should have been more.

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Chip Cox of the Alouettes sacks Argos quarterback Zach Collaros in Toronto on Tuesday. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Marsh wins battle of backup QBs

CFL. Calvillo's stand-in leads Alouettes to victory in his league debut as a starter

Rookie Tanner Marsh threw for 309 yards and a TD in his first CFL start, leading the Montreal Alouettes past the Toronto Argonauts 20-9 on Tuesday night.

Marsh, who came off the bench to rally Montreal (4-5) past B.C. 39-38 last week, didn't need any late-game heroics to help the Alouettes win the opener of the home-and-home series with Toronto (5-4). The two meet again on Sunday at Molson Stadium.

Marsh finished 18 of 27 passing and got the better of Argonauts sophomore Zach Collaros before a Rogers Centre gathering of 18,863 consisting mostly of enthusiastic university students. They witnessed a contest that felt more like a pre-season game that, while it had some notable moments, also featured its share of miscues and blown assignments.

Week 10

Alouettes	Argonauts
20	9

Collaros, Toronto's starter with incumbent Ricky Ray (shoulder) out six weeks, was 21 of 32 passing for 261 yards with a TD but threw an interception and had a costly fumble.

Montreal is tied with Hamilton (4-5) for second in the East Division after improving to 2-0 with veteran Anthony Calvillo (concussion) sidelined.

Marsh threw four interceptions and lost two fumbles against B.C. but had an interception against Toronto, which finished a three-game homestand on a losing note after winning the first two.

The Argos' best chance to get back into the game came late in the third when Dontrelle Inman's 10-yard catch put them at the Montreal 13-yard line. But Alouettes interim coach Jim Popp successfully challenged the play, correctly contending Inman fumbled and Montreal's Byron Parker recovered.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Eskimos GM rips into struggling team

Edmonton Eskimos general manager Ed Hervey lit into his 1-8 football team Tuesday, and announced he has reached past his coaching staff to indefinitely bench underperforming offensive lineman Simeon Rottier.

Hervey told reporters he will no longer sit quietly by and watch star quarterback Mike Reilly get slammed, drilled, hammered and ragdolled after every throw.

"I'm done watching it," Hervey told a news conference at Commonwealth Stadium, a day after Reilly was sacked seven times in the team's 37-34 loss to the Calgary Stampeders.

"I've had enough."

Hervey said he met with head coach Kavis Reed after the game to discuss the changes, which include a new play-caller on offence, but when asked about Rottier, Hervey said, "There was no room for negotiation on this one.

"Our football team is going to rest on the shoulders of how healthy and how much success Mike Reilly has. We have to protect him to give ourselves a chance.

"Our offensive line needs to improve and needs to improve fast." THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	83	57	.593	—
Tampa Bay	75	61	.551	6
New York	74	64	.536	8
Baltimore	73	64	.533	8½
Toronto	63	75	.457	19

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	81	58	.583	—
Cleveland	73	65	.529	7½
Kansas City	72	66	.522	8½
Minnesota	60	76	.441	19½
Chicago	56	81	.409	24

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	79	58	.577	—
Texas	79	58	.577	—
Los Angeles	64	72	.471	14½
Seattle	62	76	.449	17½
Houston	45	92	.328	34

Tuesday's results
N.Y. Yankees 6 Chicago White Sox 4
Cleveland 4 Baltimore 3
Boston 2 Detroit 1
Kansas City 4 Seattle 3
Minnesota at Houston
Tampa Bay at L.A. Angels
Texas at Oakland
Monday's results
N.Y. Yankees 9 Chicago White Sox 1
Detroit 3 Boston 0
Minnesota 10 Houston 6
Kansas City 3 Seattle 1
Baltimore 7 Cleveland 2
Oakland 4 Texas 2
L.A. Angels 11 Tampa Bay 2
Wednesday's games — All times Eastern
Minnesota (Hendriks 1-2) at Houston (Lyles 6-7), 2:10 p.m.
Texas (Darvish 12-6) at Oakland (Parker 10-6), 3:35 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Johnson 0-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Sabathia 12-11), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Britton 2-3) at Cleveland (McAllister 7-8), 7:05 p.m.
Detroit (Porcello 11-7) at Boston (Dempster 7-9), 7:10 p.m.
Seattle (Walker 1-0) at Kansas City (Santana 8-8), 8:10 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Hellickson 10-8) at L.A. Angels (Weaver 9-7), 10:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	85	53	.616	—
Washington	70	68	.507	15
Philadelphia	63	76	.453	22½
New York	62	75	.453	22½
Miami	52	85	.380	32½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh	81	57	.587	—
St. Louis	79	59	.572	2
Cincinnati	78	61	.561	3½
Milwaukee	59	79	.428	22
Chicago	58	80	.420	23

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	83	55	.601	—
Arizona	69	67	.507	13
Colorado	65	75	.464	19
San Diego	61	76	.445	21½
San Francisco	61	76	.445	21½

Tuesday's results
Cincinnati 1 St. Louis 0
Atlanta 3 N.Y. Mets 1
Washington 9 Philadelphia 6
Miami 6 Chicago Cubs 2
Pittsburgh 4 Milwaukee 3
L.A. Dodgers 7 Colorado 4
Toronto at Arizona
San Francisco at San Diego
Monday's results
Cincinnati 7 St. Louis 2
Atlanta 13 N.Y. Mets 5
Pittsburgh 5 Milwaukee 2
Miami 4 Chicago Cubs 3
San Diego 4 San Francisco 1
Toronto 4 Arizona 1
L.A. Dodgers 10 Colorado 8
Philadelphia 3 Washington 2
Wednesday — All times Eastern
N.Y. Mets (Gee 10-9) at Atlanta (Loe 0-1), 12:10 p.m.
Miami (Flynn 0-0) at Chicago Cubs (Samardzija 8-11), 2:20 p.m.
Toronto (Buehrle 11-7) at Arizona (Delgado 4-5), 3:40 p.m.
San Francisco (Lincecum 8-13) at San Diego (Stults 8-12), 6:40 p.m.
Washington (Zimmermann 15-8) at Philadelphia (Halladay 3-4), 7:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Miller 12-9) at Cincinnati (Arroyo 13-10), 7:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Liriano 15-6) at Milwaukee (Peralta 8-14), 8:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Volquez 9-10) at Colorado (De La Rosa 15-6), 8:40 p.m.

CFL

WEEK 10

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pts
Toronto	9	5	4	0	253	229	10
Hamilton	9	4	5	0	229	248	8
Montreal	9	4	5	0	215	248	8
Winnipeg	9	1	8	0	192	295	2

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pts
Saskatchewan	9	8	1	0	312	202	16
Calgary	9	7	2	0	298	234	14
B.C.	9	6	3	0	236	229	12
Edmonton	9	1	8	0	222	272	2

Tuesday's result
Montreal 20 Toronto 9
Monday's result
Calgary 37 Edmonton 34
Friday's game — All Times Eastern
Calgary at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Saturday's game
B.C. at Hamilton, 4 p.m.
Sunday's games
Toronto at Montreal, 1 p.m.
Saskatchewan at Winnipeg, 4 p.m.

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Montreal	12	7	6	41	35	42
New York	12	9	6	40	35	42
Kansas City	12	9	6	38	27	42
Philadelphia	10	8	9	37	37	39
New England	10	9	7	35	25	37
Houston	10	8	7	30	29	37
Chicago	10	10	5	31	35	35
Columbus	8	13	5	29	35	29
Toronto FC	4	12	10	23	35	22
D.C. United	3	18	5	16	43	14

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pts
Real Salt Lake	14	8	6	52	35	48
Los Angeles	13	9	4	43	32	43
Seattle	12	8	4	32	26	40
Colorado	10	8	9	34	29	39
Portland	9	5	12	39	30	39
Vancouver	10	9	7	38	35	37
FC Dallas	9	7	10	36	38	37
San Jose	9	11	7	28	40	34
Chivas USA	5	14	7	26	47	22

Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Houston at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.
Chivas USA at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Saturday's games
Columbus at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at FC Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Chicago at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Toronto FC at Portland, 11 p.m.

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- Keyless Entry
- Bluetooth°

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CITY (M/T): 9.4L/100KM

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INCLUDED FEATURES:

- 16" Steel Wheels
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- Bluetooth°
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- Keyless Entry
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Bi-weekly for 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT**. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees. Offer based on 2014 Rondo LX MT with a purchase price of $23,482.

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CITY (A/T): 9.7L/100KM

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The 2014 Infiniti Q50

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Review. This beauty beats the G37 and will get all your senses moving

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

A new name and a slew of techno enhancements are the first clues that Infiniti's Q50 sedan is something special.

But with nearly every member of Nissan's upscale division switching to new alphanumeric identification along with, in most cases, reconfigured sheetmetal, it isn't the only interesting car on Infiniti's plate for 2014. Although it was thought that the Q50 would replace the G37, the sedan version will remain in the United States as an entry model for a couple more seasons. As of press time, it's unclear whether Canada will follow suit.

Since the Q50 and G37 share the same basic dimensions, platform, suspension and powertrain and offer the same all-wheel-drive option, the differences between the two boil down to style and standard and available content. In both categories the Q50 outshines the G37 by a wide margin and should experience little trouble attracting buyers desiring a well-equipped rolling fashion statement to tool around in. Another important point of differentiation is the addition of the Q50 Hybrid that combines a potent mix of fuel economy and performance.

A cabin that elevates tastefulness to a new level also reaffirms the car's luxury-vehicle cred. This is especially in evidence with a dual-cockpit-shaped dashboard with both 17.5- and 20-centimetre touchscreen displays that operate the climate, communications and optional navigation systems.

Going forward, the Q50 employs a 3.7-litre V6 (same as in the G37) that makes 328 horsepower and 269 pound-feet of torque, while the Q50 Hybrid combines a 302-horsepower 3.5-litre V6 with an electric motor rated at 67 horsepower and 214 pound-feet of torque to produce 360 net horsepower.

The Q50 Hybrid's gasoline-electric powertrain is virtually identical to that used in what was previously called the M35h. For 2014, the M35h has been renamed the Q70 Hybrid. Its 50-kilowatt electric motor uses energy stored in a 346-volt lithium-ion battery pack located behind the rear seat. The Hybrid uses the same seven-speed automatic transmission as the regular Q50, as opposed to a less-than-sporting continuously variable unit found in most other hybrids. As well you can specify all-wheel-drive for the Hybrid, which is not available on similarly propelled Lexus or Lincoln models.

Befitting of any luxury sedan, the Q50 arrives properly attired, however the Q50 Premium adds heated front seats, power moonroof and Bose's 14-speaker "Studio on Wheels" audio system. Note that the Q50 Hybrid starts at the Premium trim level.

The Q50S adds metal-trim accents, 19-inch wheels, sport-tuned suspension and brakes and a different front bumper.

The Q50's $39,500 base price ($49,000 for the Hybrid Premium) is competitive with similar North American, German and Japanese marques, but with elevated content and eye appeal that communicates a unique luxury presence regardless of what name appears on the truck lid.

2014 Infiniti Q50

- **Type.** Four-door, rear- /all-wheel-drive mid-size luxury sedan
- **Engines (hp).** 3.7-litre DOHC V6 (328); 3.5-litre DOHC V6 + electric motor (360, net)
- **Transmissions.** Seven-speed automatic
- **Base price (incl. destination)** $39,500

Technology

Your Q50 can also be ordered with any number of option groupings, including a technology package with all the latest electronic safety enhancements such as blind-spot, lane-departure and forward collision warnings.

Fuel Economy

The stowage-space penalty is significant, but apart from the performance gain, the Hybrid rates an impressive 7.0 l/100 km in the city and 5.6 on the highway. The gasoline-only Q50 earns a 10.6/6.7 rating.

Design

As for looks, the Q50 shows off its top form with tasteful curves, swirls, bulges and angles that makes the once-stylish G37 seem downright dated and frumpy by comparison. It's also set apart by a hunkered-down stance that reaffirms its sport-sedan status, in particular with the optional 19-inch wheel-and-tire package.

The Q50's modern cockpit interior layout is designed mostly for the driver.

Compare

1 Acura TL
Base price: $41,900

2 Cadillac CTS Sedan
Base price: $47,000

3 Audi A4
Base price: $40,000

4WD: Getting low down just became a positive

Driving force. Shifting to low power delivers ultimate off-roading when you find yourself stuck in a tricky spot

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Ford Raptor's 4WD is designed for ultimate off-roading. FORD MOTOR COMPANY

When you want to go off the beaten path, nothing beats a "four-by-four," a truck or SUV with four-wheel drive and a two-speed transfer case. But it's important to know what's happening in the vehicle so you can use the right configuration for the job.

"The two-speed system isn't just about four-wheel drive, but a more off-road experience," says Peter Frantzeskakis, vehicle engineering manager for Ford's F-Series pickup trucks. "If you're in a very aggressive situation, like really deep snow or mud, you can engage the 4Low to help you crawl out."

A truck so equipped will have a dial or lever that gives you 2WD (two-wheel drive), 4High, and 4Low. Depending on the model, it may also have 4Auto. In 2WD, it operates only the rear wheels. In the 4WD settings, it engages the transfer case, which is the unit that transfers power to the front wheels as well.

In 4High, all four wheels receive power at the same rate as they would in 2WD. This is usually sufficient for most off-road applications, but there are times when you need even more grunt, and that's the job of the 4Low setting. "This is a low gear that the transfer case offers," Frantzeskakis says. "This gives more multiplication of the torque that's available."

Simply put, when the vehicle is in 4Low, the turning power to the wheels is increased — in Ford's case, by 2.64 times — to help the truck dig in and get you out of any tough going. You're basically exchanging speed for power, so you can only travel at slower speeds in 4Low.

The 4High and 4Low settings should only be used on gravel, mud or deep snow, not on dry roads. The transfer case turns all four wheels at the same speed, and while they can slide a little on loose surfaces, the system can bind on dry surfaces, which can cause the truck to "hop" when you turn, or potentially even damage the four-wheel system.

Vehicles with a 4Auto setting have a transfer case that can adjust power to each axle, so these can be driven in four-wheel on firm pavement. Cars and SUVs with all-wheel drive, or AWD, can also be driven on all surfaces.

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Self-driving cars are in fashion this fall

Autopilot. New-age dealership tactics and forthcoming luxury SUVs are also in the mix this colourful season

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

Car culture doesn't have spring and fall collections like we see in the fashion world. But that won't stop us from looking at some auto trends that have been percolating recently as we start the slide into autumn.

All three of the following trends and story lines added major plot developments this past week.

Luxury in every niche

Jaguar released a teaser image last week of its forthcoming C-X17 Concept, which will be unveiled at next week's auto show in Frankfurt. It's a tall-wagon or SUV thing! Jaguar was one of the few luxury brands left that hadn't gone over to the SUV dark side. Even Maserati is in the game now, with the Cherokee-based Kubang. But no sense beating your head against the wall; everyone else has already proven that there is money in those hills. Luxury brands used to exclusively make big sedans and big coupes. Now we have luxury contenders in every passenger car and crossover configuration, and in every size category, from compact to super size. For the record, Jaguar said the C-X17 was created to debut Jaguar's new modular aluminum architecture, and will illustrate "the diversity of vehicles that could be produced using this architecture."

Self driving cars

Nissan announced last week it will be ready with commercially viable "Autonomous Drive" in multiple vehicles by the year 2020. Lots of automakers are working on self-driving cars, but Nissan is the first to give us an actual completion date. Of course, a "commercially viable" self-driving vehicle in 2020 might be a moot point, if jurisdictions around the world don't want to, or aren't ready with the right infrastructure to, give the green light to this kind of ground-shaking change in the personal transportation world. Not long ago autonomous drive felt like a technology that was going to be in indefinite development; now it feels like the technology will not be denied.

Dealerships for millenniums

We spoke recently about how the particular wants and needs of the millennium demographic are influencing vehicle design, but the impact of these 16 to 32 old buyers will also be driving change at the dealership. A recent and major study released last week by AutoTrader.com, revealed that millenniums actually like kicking tires and talking to salespeople at a dealership even more than their baby boomer parents. But the kicker is that the experience goes down hill so much faster for them the second the salespeople get into any tactics, are less than forthright, and/or don't give them the time and space they need to make the right decision. Millenniums strongly prefer a salesperson close to their own age that adopts a consultative approach, much like what they see in an Apple Store.

Final fashion tip

Okay now back to fall fashion for a moment: Those of you still wearing white after Labour Day — more power to you. It's not a fashion hill I am prepared to die on, but for solidarity, I will continue with the white underwear.

Nissan's Autonomous Drive will be available in multiple vehicle types by the year 2020. CONTRIBUTED

The Maserati Kubang is an example of new luxury SUVs. THE DETROIT AUTO SHOW

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1.6 SL Tech model shown•

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3.5 SL model shown•

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1.8 SR model shown•

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AMVIC Licensed. †Finance offers are now available on new 2014 Versa Note 1.6 S MT (B5RG54 AA00), manual transmission/2013 Sentra 1.8 S (C4LG53 AA00), manual transmission. Selling Price is $13,685/$15,935 financed at 0.9%/0% APR equals 182 bi-weekly/182 bi-weekly payments of $78/$88 for 84/84 months. $0 down payment required. Cost of borrowing is $440.44/$0 for a total obligation of $14,125/$15,935. $500/$1,250 NCF Finance Cash included in advertised price, applicable only on 2013 Sentra (C4LG53 AA00/C4LG53 BK00)/Versa Note 1.6 S MT (B5RG54 AA00/B5RG14 AE00). Some buyers may not qualify. Offers may end without notice. Offers may be combined with other consumer cash offers. Conditions apply. $4,000 cash discount is valid on the new 2013 Nissan Altima Sedan 2.5 (T4LG13 AA00/A410) and 2013 Altima Sedan 2.5 S (T4RG13 AA00/AA10)/$13,000 cash discount is valid on all 2013 Titan models except the Titan 4X2 King Cab S SWB (1HAG79 AA00) when registered and delivered between September 4th, 2013 and September 30th, 2013. The cash discount is only available on the cash purchase, and will be deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease or finance rates. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. **$13,685/$21,513/$15,935 Selling Price for a new 2014 Versa Note 1.6 S MT (B5RG54 AA00); manual transmission/2013 Altima Sedan 2.5 (T4LG13 AA00), CVT transmission/2013 Sentra 1.8 S (C4LG53 AA00), manual transmission. $560/$1,250 NCF Finance Cash included in advertised price, applicable only on 2013 Sentra (C4LG53 AA00/C4LG53 BK00)/Versa Note 1.6 S MT (B5RG54 AA00/B5RG14 AE00) on finance purchases through subvented loan contracts only through Nissan Canada Finance. This offer cannot be combined with any other offer. Conditions apply. •Models shown $20,075/$34,413/$21,635 Selling Price for a new 2014 Versa Note 1.6 SL Tech (B5TG14 NA00), Xtronic CVT® transmission/Altima Sedan 3.5 SL (T45G13 AA00), CVT transmission/2013 Sentra 1.8 SR (C4RG13 RT00), CVT transmission. ***Freight and PDE charges ($1,567/$1,695/$1,567), air-conditioning tax ($100) where applicable, certain fees where applicable (AB: $20 tire recycling tax), manufacturer's rebate and dealer participation where applicable are included. License, registration, insurance and applicable taxes. Finance and lease offers are available on approved credit through Nissan Canada Finance for a limited time, may change without notice and cannot be combined with any other offers except stackable trading dollars. Retailers are free to set individual prices.Offers valid between September 4, 2013 and September 30, 2013.^Fuel economy from competitive intermediate/compact 2013 internal combustion engine models sourced from Autodata on 13-12-2012. ◊Hybrids and diesels excluded. 2013 Sentra/Altima fuel economy tested by Nissan Motor Company Limited. Sentra: CVT transmission (4.9L/100 KM HWY/6.6L/100 KM CITY/5.8L/100 KM COMBINED), manual transmission (5.5L/100 KM HWY/7.5L/100 KM CITY/6.6L/100 KM COMBINED). CVT model shown. Altima: 2.5L engine (7.4L/100 KM CITY/6.4L/100 KM HWY). 3.5L (9.3L/100 KM CITY/6.4L/100 KM HWY). 3.5L shown. Actual mileage may vary with driving conditions. Use for comparison purposes only. Offers subject to change, continuation or cancellation without notice. See your participating Nissan retailer for complete details. ©1998-2013 Nissan Canada Inc. and Nissan Canada Financial Services Inc. a division of Nissan Canada Inc.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Your emotions are all over the place and for that reason you are advised not to make any spur-of-the-moment decisions where affairs of the heart are concerned. You could start something you cannot stop.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Why are you focusing on the one little thing that appears to be going wrong in your life when so many bigger things are going right? Whatever the reason you need to get over it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Some kind of setback could throw you out of your stride today, but overall things are very much in your favour at the moment so there is no need to panic. The recipe for happiness is simple: worry less, love more.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You think you know everything about a certain person but what happens over the next 24 hours will show you don't know the half of it. And you'll realize it's a great surprise.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Someone you are fond of may have done something of which you don't approve but there is no need to make an issue of it. If you love them, you should give them your full support.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Not everyone is as poised and graceful as you so if a friend or relative falls flat on their face today try not to laugh . . . too much. Of course, if they keep falling over there may be something seriously wrong.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Whatever else you do today, don't get involved in other people's domestic situations. Even if you know you can help, your intervention won't be appreciated. Be smart and keep your distance.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Something has put you on edge and you don't like it one bit. The best thing to do is to put a name to the problem and then deal with it efficiently and ruthlessly.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
What you feel rather than what you think counts for more today. No matter how good a deal may look on paper if your instincts tell you there is something not quite right, you would be wise to turn it down.

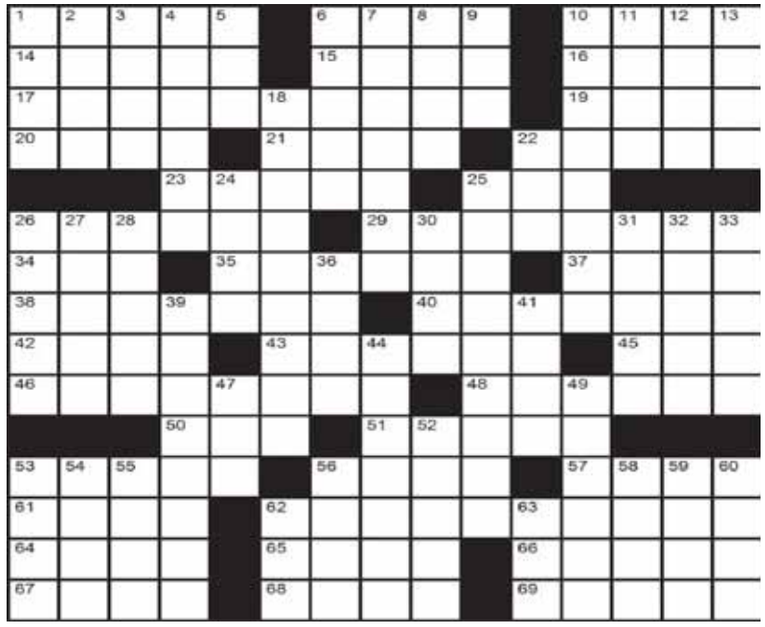
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Capricorns are not as detached as some people seem to think they are and what happens over the next couple of days will give you a chance to prove it. Be happy. Be warm.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You give off powerful vibrations that attract people to you and they will get more powerful still over the next 48 hours while the moon is new. Just make sure all these new friends don't cost you lots of money.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
A little bit of flattery will go a long way today and will go even further tomorrow when the moon is new in your opposite sign. Just don't say things you don't mean — that's just dishonest. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

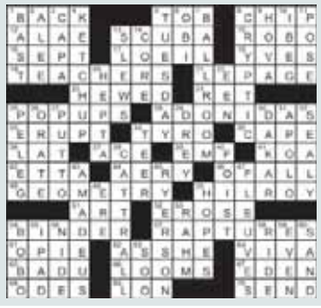
See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. "If I __ __ so myself..."
6. Large lot
10. Yarn ball
14. Singer/songwriter Fiona
15. Murmurs
16. Mystical light
17. California cracks: 2 wds.
19. Splashy stuff
20. Drive-__
21. Betting likelihoods
22. Sensible
23. Washing cycle
25. Feel sick
26. Belgium seaport
29. Canadian correspondent on NBC's "Dateline" who is Matthew Perry's stepfather, Keith __
34. Occupational suffix
35. French brandy
37. Robert De __
38. Canadian rowing great/Olympian, Silken __
40. Carol __ (Canadian author born in Oak Park, Illinois)
42. Other: Spanish
43. Rubenesque
45. "Rubber Ball" singer Bobby
46. Kibbles holder, as opposed to water: 2 wds.
48. Facing
50. Gold: Spanish
51. Roberta Flack's "The First Time __ __ Saw Your Face"
53. #49-Down inspired this writer's 'Pooh' books, A.A. __ (b.1882 - d.1956)
56. Secular
57. California wine valley
61. Similar
62. Contents
64. Ms. Ward
65. __ the finish: 2 wds.
66. Abercrombie & __
67. Eleventh letters
68. Queen's "Radio __ __"
69. Ruffle, as '80s hairstyles

Down
1. Electro music's __ Punk
2. Moonfish
3. Prod
4. Magnetism
5. Nevertheless
6. Citric, and others
7. Strongly denounce
8. Egg masses
9. Twisty turn
10. Alberta is named in honour of Queen Victoria's sixth child, Princess Louise __ Alberta (b.1848 - d.1939)
11. Hawaiian feast
12. CNN's "__ Burnett OutFront"
13. Harry Potter's prop
18. #49-Down became popular at England's what?: 2 wds.
22. Gentleman's title
24. King Atahualpa, for one
25. Building designer
26. __ __ Olay
27. "From __ shining...": 2 wds.
28. 'The Hub' of Nova Scotia
30. Brewer's kiln
31. Region's forest trees
32. Command
33. Rudolph, red-__
36. Chew
39. "Vogue" singer's namesakes
41. Mr. Stravinsky
44. Horrid stopover, __ motel
47. 1990s gold mining scandal, __-X
49. Canada's most famous bear which belonged to WWI soldier Harry Colebourn
52. Panorama
53. Conceal
54. Swedish furniture store
55. Flower type
56. Roman moon goddess
58. Official records
59. Bench press muscles, for short
60. "I think it's __ __." ...said the vet of the newly born puppy
62. 'John Hancock', e.g.
63. Ship's stern

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	3		4		9		2	
		8	3		1	5		
6								9
		1		7		9		
7								1
		3		5		4		
8								3
		6	7		8	1		
	5		6		2		7	

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	7	9	4	8	3	5	2	1
5	8	2	1	6	9	7	3	4
1	3	4	2	7	5	8	6	9
8	9	5	6	2	1	3	4	7
7	2	3	9	5	4	6	1	8
4	1	6	8	3	7	9	5	2
2	6	7	3	4	8	1	9	5
3	5	1	7	9	2	4	8	6
9	4	8	5	1	6	2	7	3

Weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAX: 27° MIN: 15°	MAX: 25° MIN: 15°	MAX: 25° MIN: 14°

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Southeast

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